

## Great Canals of the World

Described by Frank G. Carpenter,  
Now He Rose to Panama.

One and Its Economic Products—How John Bull Made 600 Per Cent—The Corinth Canal Which Cut Greece in Two—Russia's Baltic Waterway—The Big Works the Kaiser Did—German and French Canals—Other Empires Paid 500 for Manchuria—Waterways of India, Japan and Egypt.



ONE THOUSAND MILES LONG.

is fed by creeks and rivers. At one point the river was conducted into it, and the Chinese say that 300,000 men worked seven months to turn the waters of that stream. The Grand Canal cuts the Yellow River at its middle. The Yellow River is in many places little more than a great ditch and nearly everywhere it is now in bad repair. It is, all told, about as long as the Mississippi. Next comes China, and it passes through a territory containing about three times as many people as the United States.

**A GREAT TAX ROUTE.**  
One of the chief uses of this Chinese canal has been to carry the tribute rice to Peking. At certain times of the year a long fleet of boats moves northward carrying the grain. The Government taxes are heavy, especially on the kind paid every year, the farmers send about 150,000 pounds of rice to the Emperor. Along the banks of the canal I saw a number of small ships loaded with grain, and I was told that nearly every town on the canal had its Government barns. Of late much of the rice has been shipped to Peking by railroads, and the grain is being carried at more cheaply than it can be taken by the canal. When the railroads have been built connecting Peking with the northern parts of the country, most of the grain will go by them. As the canal now is, navigation in some parts is difficult, and it requires several months to get a boat up to Peking by way of the Yangtze to Peking.

There is a band of canals built both for traffic and for irrigation. One of the most important of these is the Hwang Ho, which was planned by the Emperor's engineers, say, and was carried out by the same schoolboys appointed engineer.

It is said to have the best irrigation system in the world. It has the famous Canal, which is 400 miles long and which has more than 2,000 miles of branches. The smaller Canal is 120 miles long and it has a number of tributaries. There are great irrigation works in Persia, and as for Egypt, everyone has heard of the wonderful water system of the Nile Valley.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

## VERSITY STUDENTS TO GIVE COMEDY

Dramatic Club of Washington University Will Present Mark Twain's "Meisterschaft" Wednesday Afternoon.

Washington University has lined up a small but handsome theater in Cuddeback Hall No. 2 for the Dramatic Club of the university, and the first presentation is to be given next Wednesday afternoon. The play will be Mark Twain's little comedy, "The Meisterschaft."

The Dramatic club has planned an elaborate production of the "Two Gentlemen of Verona" to be given in June at the German or Country Theater. Miss Martin

Marie Institute will coach the cast.

With the establishment of Washington University in the splendid group just vacated by the World's Fair Company there has been a revival in the club and "frat" activities there. Besides the university gate open to all students, and which includes the Athletic Association, the Debating Club, Dramatic Club, Glee Club and the like, there is a large number of more exclusive social clubs.

Most national college fraternities have flourishing chapters at Washington, one local fraternity is represented and two organized.

The two latter are the senior society of "Fratina" and the Sophomore class of "Lock and Chain."

The former has given a series of university dances over very fine music which is announced for Friday, March 11. It will be given in the university dining hall.

Some of the university organizations of more serious purpose are the Political Science Club which meets at the homes of its members; the Architects' Club, composed of mostly engineering students; the Kappa Alpha Society, consisting of sixteen men from the junior and senior classes in chemistry, who meet for the purpose of original research.

The Engineers' Association presents a course of three illustrated lectures on "Great French Architects," by Louis G. Steiner, to be given at X. C. A. Hall, Dining and Playing room, at noon, on evenings, March 14, 21 and 28 at 8 p.m.

## AUSTRALIAN SHEEP EXPORTS ARE GROWING.

Frozen Lamb Find a Ready Market So Far Away as London and the Philippines.

### HOSPITAL SPECIAL.

Washington, March 11.—The export of lamb in frozen condition is now one of the most promising industries of the State of Victoria, Australia, according to Colonial Day's report. For two years past exporters have been clamoring for lumber only for London, but for Africa, the United States, India, the East and Mediterranean ports. The prices offered have tempted farmers within easy reach of markets to breed and rear for export purposes, or fatten to meet export market purposes as well as wool requirements.

It is generally admitted that the cross-bred Merino lamb is the best lamb for meat purposes and would sell on an average at about \$1.50 per pound.

If the export goes on increasing at the same rate as a recent annual increase of 20 per cent, it will be necessary to add another 200,000 sheep to the flock.

The price of lamb in frozen condition is about 40 cents per pound.

Merino lambs cost \$1.50 per pound.

Sheep require only a small quantity of food during the month of November.

This exceeds that of any month in any previous year.

### SUCCESSIVE TENANTS CRAZED

Malady Attributed to Germ in Farm's Vegetation.

### EPIDEMIC SPECIAL.

Hanover, N. H., March 11.—For forty years or more the old Cox farm of West Library, has been a cause of mystery and interest to the medical fraternity of the country. Within that period not a single family has lived any length of time on the farm without some of its members going insane.

The first occupants of the place were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ascker. Mr. Ascker was crazy when he first came to the farm, and his wife followed him.

At some time Mrs. Ascker became affected with insanity, and her son, Dr. James Ascker, who first closed the eyes of his father, had to care for his mother. Mrs. Ascker died, and James Ascker followed the Cox family in the ownership of the place but became deranged and had to be sent to an asylum.

From that time down to the present every family living there has been crazed.

It is believed that there is something in the drinking water used on the farm that affects the intellect. Others think that it is caused by some germ that grows in the vegetation growing on the place.

The farm is now deserted.

### 100 SNAKES UNDER WOODPILE

Indiana Farmer Discovers Reptiles in Winter Retreat.

### EPIDEMIC SPECIAL.

Muncie, Ind., March 11.—John Stevens, a farmer of temperate habits and whose sanity is not questioned, tells the first snake story of the season. He said:

"For a large amount of stove wood last summer I cut it in a pile, and left it until this winter, when I began to haul it to Muncie and add it on the market. Yesterday I discovered on one of the logs in the pile I found a large coil of snakes containing about fifty copperheads."

Some of the snakes measured four feet in length. A number of them were large, and some four feet long. The coil of snakes it contained about the same number, but the snakes were larger."

### THE CHESAPEAKE CANAL

My last article was on the other side of the world, so the Grand Canal of China is where I want to start. The Chinese have a number of canals, but the Grand Canal is the largest and most important. It is about 1,000 miles long and connects the Yellow River with the Yangtze.

It is a greater wonder than the Great Wall, because it connects the two greatest rivers of the world. It is the longest and deepest canal in the world.

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